



Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board



Minutes of the November 3, 2010 meeting of the Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board.

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 noon by Chairperson Takako Wakita. The Secretary was asked to call the Roll. Members attending were: Takako Wakita, Chairperson; Wayne Hewitt, Vice Chairperson; Janet Baker, Recording Secretary; Marianne Freeman, Dingle, Ireland; David Gorbet, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico; Linda Mathews, Toba, Japan; Alec Wilczynski, Kotor, Montenegro, (Alt.); Dean Gastouniates, Patras, Greece (Alt.); Linda Gunther, Staff Representative. Members absent: Jamie Sodusta, San Juan, Phillipines. Guest: Barbara Ellis, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.

On a motion duly made, seconded and carried, the minutes of the September 1, 2010 , meeting were approved as corrected/amended. The corrections included:

- a corrected spelling of Theony Condos;
- a Dingle, Ireland representative report - Marianne Freeman reported that the Dingle group had a Board meeting, followed by dinner meeting on September 14th at Mulligan's Restaurant. The Board meeting included a discussion on the reorganization of the group and election of the following officers: Erin Graffy de Garcia, President; Judith McDermott, Vice President; Carey Rogers, Treasurer and Marianne Freeman, Secretary. Marianne reported the dues for 2011 are \$25.00. A visitation to Dingle is being planned for 2011.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Takako reported she had received an e-mail regarding a proposed Sister City in Brazil. She sent them the Guidelines for Establishing a Sister City.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2010/2011: Additions were: December 3, 2010 Santa Barbara/Puerto Vallarta Christmas Party and Kotor, Montenegro planning a fund raiser dinner in Los Angeles on December 6, 2010.

9-11 CONCERT: This year's concert was very successful. Received \$212.05 in donations, after expenses a profit of \$58.95. Takako thanked Marianne Freeman for handling the Reception after the concert. After due discussion it was decided to hold the concert at this same place next year along with the Santa Barbara Music Club. Over 100 in attendance this year.

UNITED NATIONS DAY CELEBRATION DINNER: Everyone agreed that this one

was the "best ever" due primarily to the hard work of Takako in pulling it all together. The event was well attended and enhanced this year by the arrival of a delegation from Toba, Japan. There was great coverage in the Santa Barbara News-press regarding the Toba delegation, thanks to Linda Mathews. Takako said she had not received all the bills yet so will give a final report at the January meeting.

STATUS OF SAN JUAN, PHILLIPINES SISTER CITY: As no representative from the San Juan, Phillipines Sister City has attended a meeting of the Board for over a year, after due discussion on a motion duly made, seconded and carried it was moved to send a letter along with the Guidelines for Continuing as a Sister City of Santa Barbara to Jamie Sodusta, President and request a reply by the January 5, 2011 meeting at which time a decision will be made as to their continuation as a Sister City.

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

Patras, Greece: Alternate, Dean Gastouneatis reported the group had a Board meeting on October 7th and determined the membership fee for 2011 will be \$50.00. He said they also have established a Web Site www.SBPATRAS.org. He said they are planning another meeting the end of this year.

Dingle, Ireland: Marianne Freeman reported they held a Board meeting on September 14th followed by dinner meeting for general membership at Mulligans with 25 attending. She said they are working on a Non-profit status for the group. They hope to get the group active again in the New Year.

Puerto Vallarta, Mexico: David Gorbet reported their meeting tonight will be at the Sizzler with a representative of Direct Relief as speaker. He said their meeting in October was held at the San Vicente Mobile Home Park recreation room with 41 attending. A Christmas Party is being planned for December 1st at the home of Art and Barbara Najera. About 25 members will be leaving for Puerto Vallarta on November 9th for the annual visitation which is two weeks early this year. Also going will be three deputies from the Sheriff's Department for the Law Enforcement Exchange and I Modanari artists which is also an exchange program started a few years ago.

Kotor, Montenegro: Alternate Alec Welczynski reported that 12 members attended the UN Dinner. Another Fund Raiser dinner is being planned at a restaurant in Los Angeles. He reported that Valarie Harrison is currently in Kotor to deliver a check for \$1,000.00 to the Orphanage which the group has been helping support. Also, the group is working on a Youth Exchange for next year.

Toba, Japan: Linda Mathews reported she participated in the Asian Fair at the Presidio and she suggested that everyone check out the display there. She reported a delegation of 15 people, including the Mayor of Toba visited Santa Barbara for three days in October and attended the UN Dinner. The Mayor extended an invitation to visit Toba in the Fall of 2011 when they will be celebrating their 45th year as a Sister City. Linda said they are starting work on the Student Exchange for next year.

San Juan, Phillipines: No report given.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Baker, Recording Secretary